

AMENDMENT

Kindly amend the application, without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents, as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly amend the claims, without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents, to read as follows:

14. (Previously Presented) A method for reducing circulating fatty acids from, or maintained by, reductase activity of 11-Beta-hydroxysteroid dehydrogenase 1 (11-Beta HSD1) in adipose tissue in a patient in need thereof comprising
determining reductase activity of 11 Beta HSD1 in adipose tissue, and
inhibiting said reductase activity of 11-Beta HSD1 in adipose tissue in said patient.

15. (Previously Presented) A method for reducing circulating fatty acids from, or maintained by, reductase activity of 11-Beta-hydroxysteroid dehydrogenase 1 (11-Beta HSD1) in adipose tissue in a patient in need thereof comprising
determining reductase activity of 11 Beta HSD1 in adipose tissue,
determining whether a compound or composition inhibits said reductase activity of 11

Beta HSD1 in adipose tissue, and
administering to said patient said compound or composition which inhibits said reductase activity of 11-Beta HSD1 in adipose tissue, in an amount effective to so inhibit said reductase activity of 11-Beta HSD1 in adipose tissue.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14 wherein the inhibiting is by administering carbenoxolone or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, wherein determining whether a compound or composition inhibits said reductase activity of 11-Beta HSD1 in adipose tissue comprises:

obtaining reductase activity of 11-Beta HSD1 in an isolated *in vitro* adipocyte cell population, and contacting said compound or composition with said adipocyte cell population.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15 wherein the compound or composition which inhibits said reductase activity of 11-Beta HSD1 in adipose tissue is carbenoxolone or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14, wherein said patient suffers from one of the following: obesity, insulin resistance, or obesity and insulin resistance.

20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, wherein said patient suffers from one of the following: obesity, insulin resistance, or obesity and insulin resistance.

21. (Previously Presented) A method for treating obesity, insulin resistance, or obesity and insulin resistance by regulating reductase activity of 11-Beta-hydroxysteroid dehydrogenase 1 (11-Beta HSD1) in adipose tissue in a patient in need thereof comprising determining reductase activity of 11 Beta HSD1 in adipose tissue, and inhibiting said reductase activity of 11-Beta HSD1 in adipose tissue in said patient.

22. (Currently Amended) A method for treating obesity, insulin resistance, or obesity and insulin resistance by regulating reductase activity of 11-Beta-hydroxysteroid dehydrogenase 1 (11-Beta HSD1) in adipose tissue in a patient in need thereof comprising determining reductase activity of 11 Beta HSD1 in adipose tissue, determining whether a compound or composition inhibits said reductase activity of 11 Beta HSD1 in adipose tissue, and administering to said patient said compound or composition which inhibits said reductase activity of 11-Beta HSD1 in adipose tissue, in an amount effective to so inhibit said reductase activity of 11-Beta HSD1 in adipose tissue.